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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
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Sitka Area Office  
304 Lake Street, Rm. 103  
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Date: June 14, 2012  
Time: 4:15 p.m.

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#### **SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the opening of the Southeast Alaska drift gillnet fishery, during the times and in the areas listed below, beginning on Sunday, June 17, 2012.

**Section 1-B:** will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 17, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, June 21, with the following restriction:

**Pearse and Portland Canals:** will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point located at the southern entrance of Edwards Passage.

**District 6:** will be open from 12:01 p.m., Monday, June 18, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 20, with the following restriction:

**Section 6-D:** will be closed north and east of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington, to a point on Etolin Island at 56°09.60' N. latitude, 132°42.70' W. longitude, to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope and south of a line from Point Stanhope to Luck Point.

**District 8:** will be open from 12:01 p.m., Monday, June 18, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 20, with the following restrictions:

**Stikine River:** waters off the Stikine River will be closed north and west of a line from Babbler Point to Hour Point along the shore of Wrangell Island to Point Highfield to the southern end of Liesnoi Island to the southern end of Greys Island to the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough to the nearest point of Mitkof Island, and south and east of a line from the prominent point of Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island to the northern end of Coney Island to a point 500 yards north of Jap Creek on the mainland shore;

**Beacon Point/Point Frederick Area:** waters of Frederick Sound will be closed west of a line from the District 10 boundary one nautical mile off the Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light to Point Frederick.

**Section 11-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 17, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 19, with the following restrictions:**

**Taku Inlet:** waters of Taku Inlet will be closed north of the latitude of Jaw Point at 58°16.80' N. latitude;

**Port Snettisham:** waters of Port Snettisham will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman to Point Anmer.

**Section 15-A: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 17, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 19, in the waters of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Seduction Point.**

**Section 15-C: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 17, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 19, in those waters within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N. latitude and in all remaining waters of Section 15-C south of the latitude of Point Bridget.**

**Section 15-C: (Boat Harbor terminal harvest area): will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 17, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 19, in those waters within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N. latitude and from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 17 until further notice in those waters of the Boat Harbor terminal harvest area west of a department marker at the entrance to Boat Harbor.**

Fishermen and tenders are asked to keep king salmon harvested in the Anita Bay THA separate from those harvested in District 8. Separating these harvests will greatly assist in fish accounting purposes in regards to the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

The most recent department generated Taku River large king salmon terminal run projection of 12,000 is significantly below the preseason forecast of 48,000 fish. Because of this projection, fishing time in Section 11-B will be limited to two days.

**Fishermen are reminded that per 5 AAC 33.331 (d) Gillnet Specifications and Operations, through the fourth Saturday in June the maximum gillnet mesh size in District 11 and 15 is six inches.**

King salmon less than 28" that are harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. King salmon less than 28" in length, and those of Alaska hatchery origin, will not be counted against the Alaskan allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty harvest. The department is discontinuing the use of species code 411 beginning in 2012 to account for small king salmon in drift gillnet fisheries and instead will rely on ADF&G port sampling programs for that purpose. For drift gillnet fisheries, only species code 410 should be used to report king salmon of all sizes. Fish and Game samplers working at the processing facilities will also identify hatchery-reared king salmon so those fish are not counted against the Alaskan share of the harvest.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S2112.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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